New Labor Law

It is almost two months since President Eisenhower signed into law the measure known as the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959. Since its passage, representatives of the AFL-CIO have been meeting with U. S. Department of Labor officials for purposes of ascertaining the intent behind the numerous confusing provisions of this vicious legislation. As of this time this column was written, representatives of the United States Department of Labor are as confused as we are as to what many features of this Act are concerned. Until rules and regulations are printed, it is doubtful that labor organizations can comply with the vague wording of a bad law.

In the October edition of "White Collar," our International Union went to considerable expense to comply with Section 105 of the Act, which states in its entirety: "Every labor organization shall inform its members concerning the provisions of this Act." As far as we could ascertain no one in authority knew what this provision meant. In order to be on the safe side, we printed a special 8-page edition of "White Collar" and forwarded the entire act to the membership of the Office Employees International Union. In this way, we discharged the International Union's obligation and the obligation of each of our Local Unions in the United States.

Because of the lack of clarification, we have made arrangements to have our Secretary-Treasurer forward a copy of this special edition of "White Collar" to each new member of our International Union. This involves considerable additional expense.

This is the first time in our memory that a law required that the segment of the economy affected inform individuals concerned of the provisions of the law. Laws affecting publicly owned corporations can be changed yearly in Congress without any such requirement. Labor has been singled out for this most unnatural, expensive responsibility.

In the event of an election, those desiring to run for office in a Local Union will now have the right of examining the mailing lists of that organization within thirty days prior to such election. This means that Communists, racketeers, or other undesirable elements can simply, through becoming a candidate for a Local Union office, obtain the names and addresses of such membership. Disreputable people may sell these lists for profit. Communists may use these lists for purposes of gaining control of the organization or subversion.

This same responsibility is not true of corporations. In other words, if an individual is a stockholder of a corporation and desires to be a candidate for the Board of Directors for that corporation, he does not have the right to inspect the lists of stockholders and is forced to go to tremendous expense to obtain proxies through professional organizations. In other words, corporations are not required to have recent bulletin sections, but they can use the age-old system of proxy voting which continues officials in power, interminably.

Again, labor has been singled out for a most unusual legal provision thus depriving members of the rights of privacy. An employer, through the use of irresponsible candidates for office, (Continued on page 4)
White Collar

Steel Injunction

President Eisenhower, after an extended steel strike, obtained a Taft-Hartley injunction which forced the steelworkers back to work under management control.

It is unfortunate that the President waited until the industry had exhausted its tremendous inventories before exercising his powers under the Taft-Hartley Act. If the President had invoked the law which calls for an 80-day cooling off period at the beginning of the strike, his action would have been recognized by all concerned as impartial. In this instance, however, he endangered the company's profits by acting for the benefit of just one side.

The President's action in this instance contrasted sharply with President Truman's, who, in a similar situation, attacked the industry for its record profits and its refusal to share these profits with the workers who help to produce this wealth. The steel industry, today, is reaping all time record high profits but taking the position that a wage increase would be inflationary.

It is amazing, too, that the newspapers of the country, dependent on corporation advertising, insists on trying to sell this wage cut argument to its readers.

Foreign Steel Competition

In this country, hear much from the steel industry that the wages paid American labor are pricing American steel companies out of foreign markets.

Let's look at some contrasting arguments.

Harry Douglas, General Secretary of the British Iron and Steel Trades Confederation states: "Labor costs are not cheaper in Europe." Mr. Douglas further stated that the American steel industry is aided by natural advantages and high productivity. He pointed out that iron ore in America is cheaper and of a higher quality than in Europe. American coal runs in thicker veins and close to the surface.

President W. J. Carren of the British Amalgamated Engineering Union adds to the picture through his statement that "The British motor car industry is reaping a considerable exterion profit produced by American companies which these few companies claim is not competitive."

The International Metal Workers Federation commented: "American hourly wages are higher, but European fringe benefits, such as hospitalization, insurance, income guarantees, family care, pensions, vacations, holidays, and other time-off with pay, are superior to conditions in the United States.'"

Cost-of-Living

In September, the cost-of-living again pushed its way upwards to 125.2. This represents an increase of 4 of a point, in the Labor Department's Consumer Price Index, from the August figure. This increase in the cost-of-living was made despite the Administration's tight money policy.

Though tight money, which is simply another name for making money more expensive to borrow, we have contributed to inflation instead of controlling it.

The new short term government bonds are bringing a return of 5 per cent to the bondholder and insurance companies who are able to purchase them. But, with interest rates rising in the face of added additional burdens on the taxpayer and contributing to the profits of the bankers.

This policy continues the inflationary spiral while giving the taxpayers additional woes.

Chicago Pneumatic Signs New Agreement

UTICA, N. Y.-In the agreement between OEIU Local 281 and the Chicago Pneumatic Tool Company in Utica, New York, a wage reaper clause has resulted in an increase of $3.52 per week across-the-board and two additional half holidays, i.e., a half day before Christmas and a half day before New Year's.
Lawyer Tells of New Labor Act

Conference Organizer Romania Carski reports that petition for certification has been filed with the Quebec Labor Relations Board on behalf of the office employees of Chorich Brown Ltd., in Montreal, the office employees of the Toronto branch of the company are organized in Local 131 in Toronto, Ontario.

The employees have already prepared a first agreement to be negotiated with the company, it is mainly based on the Local 133 agreement.

**CONTRACT CAPSULE**

Canadian Car Company and Local 57, Montreal (covers 200 employees). Contract renewal for two years. Union obtained that all employees must be members of the Union. Wage increases and readjustment representing $30 per employee. Automatic promotion provisions with increases every fourth (4) months. New time and wage rate for overtime work.

Some of the rates per month:

This agreement also will provide four weeks' vacation after 12 years' employment.

**Canadian Corner**

**Western Conference**

Chairman Cohn, secretary-treasurer of Local 153, who was in attendance at the recent meeting, reported renewal of contracts with the U.S. Paper Company, and the International Steel Company. A conference was held where a successful agreement was obtained. The conference was held in conjunction with the National Labor Relations Board's rules and regulations.

**Canadian Conference**

Chairman Cohn, secretary-treasurer of Local 153, was in attendance at the recent meeting, and reported the success of the International Steel Company in its negotiations with the company. The conference was held in conjunction with the National Labor Relations Board's rules and regulations.

**Canadian Conference Elects New Officers**

**Delegates and guests at the recent Canadian Organizational Conference**

At a recent meeting of the Canadian Organizational Conference, the delegates elected Marcell Pariseau as president and Eric Bouch as secretary-treasurer.

The meeting considered ways and means of improving the effectiveness of the Conference. At future Conference meetings, local unions will submit written reports of the activities of their local union which will be included in the minutes that are forwarded to all afiliated labor grade locals.

As evidence of the sincere desire of the delegates to the Organizational Conference to expand their activities, the delegates voted a voluntary $50 per cent in its first year in its activities in the Conference. They took action to make the President of the Conference responsible for reporting the activities in the Conference each month in "White Collar" through the Canadian Corner.

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Special Notice

In compliance with Title III of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959, a report has been filed with the Secretary of Labor relating to the Trusteeship of the United International Union Local 29, Detroit, Mich.

The information contained in this report, in accordance with Section 201 (f) of the Act, is available at the International Union office.

The above report was filed on May 29, following the last-minute call for publication.

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New York's "Miss Union Maid"

The Westchester County Board of Health and the Welfare Federation have announced the election of New York's "Miss Union Maid" for 1960, who will be a member of the New York City Women's Union." The contest was sponsored by the Women's Division of the AFL-CIO, to promote the welfare of hospital and other medical workers.

The contest was open to all women who are members of the Women's Division of the AFL-CIO and who have been active in union work for at least one year. The award is $200 and includes a trip to New York City to attend the Women's Division Convention.

The contest was held in conjunction with the Women's Division Convention, which was held in New York City. The convention was attended by more than 1,000 women from across the country.

The winner will be announced at the convention and will receive a plaque and a certificate of appreciation. The winner will also be featured in the Women's Division newsletter and will be invited to participate in future Women's Division events.

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Plan Pays Big Hospital Bills

At least two members of Local 29, Oakland, Calif., really appreciate union's health and welfare plan. For they have recovered from a near-fatal accident and have been able to return to work.

Case No. 1 involved the wife of a member who was seriously injured in an automobile accident. The accident occurred on May 4, requiring blood transfusions and surgery. Total hospital and medical costs were $1,127.72 of which CPS paid $2,550.67. The hospital bill was subsequently reduced to $4,088.85 which has been paid in full by CPS.

Case No. 2 involved the wife of a member who suffered a heart attack. The child was hospitalized for 79 days and required expensive skin grafting. The hospital bill was subsequently reduced to $5,124.77, which was paid in full by CPS.

Salesmen Win New Benefits

New York, N. Y.--In negotiations for the salaries of the Hoffman Beverage Co., Management was placated that the union had thoroughly investigated all aspects of the previous agreement, and that there were no new agreements in the making.

The Hoffman salaries, in accordance with the agreement, issued an ultimatum to the company that a new agreement could not be executed on September 1, or they would take economic sanctions.

The company immediately responded and arranged a meeting, in which great progress was made, but not enough to insure a signed agreement. Another meeting was called, which ran until 4 a.m., on Saturday, Aug. 29.

As a result of this meeting, the following improvements were agreed upon:

1. All salesmen, included Reinette Blain, Leonard Blumstein, and others, receive a 25% per month increase in base salary and additional $10 per week in base salary, in addition to the fourth year anniversary date of the agreement.

2. For the 40-hour week, a $20 per month increase in base salary.

3. A 5% monthly increase in their allowance.

4. Effective January 1, the individual's personal holiday shall be a contract holiday.

5. The Hoffman Beverage Co. last increased its percentage to the benefit of the workers in the Local 153 Welfare Fund to provide dental insurance for the salesmen.

In addition to the above benefits, the Hoffman Beverage salesmen will receive $50 for every new account added to the benefit of the workers in the Local 153 Welfare Fund.

The salesmen unanimously ratified their new contract, and their new agreements were handled by Secretary-Treasurer Blain.

The new agreements were the result of the Hoffman agreement, which was reached through discussions with the Hoffman management and the Local 153 Welfare Fund.

The agreement provides for increased wages, a $25 per month increase in base salary, and a $20 per month increase in base salary, in addition to the fourth year anniversary date of the agreement.

In addition to the above, the Hoffman agreement provides for an additional $10 per week in base salary, in addition to the fourth year anniversary date of the agreement.

The Hoffman agreement was the result of negotiations between the Hoffman management and the Local 153 Welfare Fund to provide dental insurance for the salesmen.

In addition to the above benefits, the Hoffman agreement provides for an additional $10 per week in base salary, in addition to the fourth year anniversary date of the agreement.

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